

Equality Impact Assessment Summary

Name of policy, function or service
East Central Treefest Partnership

Purpose and aim(s) of the policy, function or service
<p>The Treefest Partnership Programme is part of the Active Woods promotional campaign that in Central Scotland that aims to raise awareness about tree, woodlands and the benefits that these can bring to communities. Central Scotland Conservancy engages in partnership working with different organisations and groups in order to deliver community focused festivals celebrating and promoting trees, woods and forests, together with sustainable wood and non-wood products and the environment.</p> <p>The Treefest partnership(s) aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deliver successful annual shows in different parts of East Central Scotland. • Targeting different audiences, especially from priority WIAT areas and Ethnic and Black Minorities. • Development of different shows based on annual evaluation and policy objectives of partner organisations. • Developing new working partnerships. • To promote the Active Woods and the Woods for Health messages. • To increase awareness and use of local woods amongst the public. <p>To increase awareness of FCS and forestry in general.</p>

Who will benefit mainly from this policy, function or service?
<p>The general public- families and children that come along to the events organised in partnership with other organisations.</p> <p>The priority areas for target are urban areas with high SIMD, BME communities and young people.</p>

Information and Data (evidence) used
<p>Reference from the Scottish Government website “High level summary of equality statistics: Key trends for Scotland (November 2006)” that is based on data collected during the Census in 2001:</p> <p>Scottish population counts for 5,062,011. 52% of Scotland’s population are female. Scotland’s male and female population is expected to rise until 2021 and then slowly decline by 2031. The age and gender of migrants remains relatively constant from year to year and the pattern of migration is similar for men and women.</p> <p>The size of minority ethnic population was just over 100,000 or 2.0% of the total population of Scotland. Pakistani were the largest minority ethnic group, following by Chinese and Indians. This compares to just over 60,000 in 1991 (or 1.3%). While the Scottish population increased by 1.3% over this time, the minority ethnic population increased by 62.3%. In this analysis we are making the assumption that the ethnic</p>

minority population continued to increase, therefore the rationale to fully engage with this audience.

For both males and females, minority ethnic groups have a younger age distribution than white ethnic groups. The Mixed ethnic group has the youngest age structure: 44% are under the age of 16 years. The White Irish population has the highest proportion of people of pensionable age and over (27%).

The number of people reporting both a disability and long-term illness (4% according to the Scottish Household Survey 2005) increases with age, more sharply for older age groups. There is very little difference in the proportion of males and females who report a disability and/or long term illness in 2003 and 2005. According to the 2001 Census, the four white ethnic groups have a higher rate of limiting long-term illness than minority ethnic groups (all ages). However since the evidence of limiting long-term illness increases with age and since the age structure is remarkably difference for different ethnic groups, this statement may not be completely accurate.

In terms of religion and belief (Census 2001): Christian 65.09%; Church of Scotland 42.40%; Roman Catholic 15.88%; Other Christian (6.81%; Islam 0.84%; Buddhists, Sikhs and Jews all 0.13% and Hindus 0.11%.

In term of the Treefest Programme with reference to the Health Agenda, we have gathered some National and local data for Race, Disabled People, Gender and Age:

The Scottish Health Survey states the 67% of women and 56% of men (16-74), 26% of boys and 37% of girls (2-15) are not active enough for their health.

The recent Greenspace Scotland omnibus survey of perceptions and attitudes shows that 90% of people strongly agree that greenspace should be a good place to relax and unwind and 91% that they should be safe places for physical activity. However only 56% agrees that their local greenspace is a good place to relax and only 60% agrees that their local greenspace is safe.

The Scottish Public Opinion of Forestry Survey shows that 32% of people are positive about the standard of management of their local woodlands and forests. 42% were positive about the recreational provision in woodland in their local area.

A survey carried out a Pollok Park Family Day (Glasgow) in 2005 gathered information on Gender, Age and Disability of participants (over a sample of 480 people) that attended the event. The same survey was carried out at Chatelherault Country Park (South Lanarkshire) and Edinburgh Treefest (Edinburgh). These three events represent big scale events that FCS has delivered in partnership with other bodies. The survey gathered information about the reasons they attended the event (to spend time with family and children main response), whether the participants ever visited a woodland or park and whether they were more likely to visit it in the future. The above survey tables are

available (on file).

Analysis of census and other statistical data reveals that Scotland's South Asian population is mainly Pakistani, with a large minority of Indian people and a small minority of Bangladeshis. As a whole, South Asians are concentrated in the inner cities, and are less affluent than the general population. They experience lower pay, more unemployment and more self-employment. They are concentrated in owner-occupied housing, some of which is low quality, lacks amenity, and is overcrowded. Households are larger, and include more children and more extended families. There is a relatively small population of older people, and more older men than older women. Ill health is a major restriction on quality of life, limiting activity, producing mental distress, and increasing needs for support.

Qualitative data about the usage of woodland and the awareness of the social benefits of woods and forests were collected at the Edinburgh Mela in September 2008.

In addition to the above data FCS has gathered qualitative data (talking to people at events or as a follow up) in terms of satisfaction of customers in relation to the function served. In general people attended events across Central Scotland were happy with the organisation and location of events and with the activities and displays provided. Some offered some positive feedback for further development. Most attendees agreed that they would come back in the future if similar events were organised.

Summary of Impact

The Treefest events are likely to have a positive impact on all groups as events are organised in locations easily accessed by everyone and are subject to extensive promotional campaigns using different media (eg: Radio Awas). Central Scotland Conservancy considers Treefest as a moveable feast that engages with different partners and groups as new opportunities continue to arise.

Monitoring/Evaluation

Based on the baseline survey carried out in 2005 we now intend to carry out assessment of Treefest events in summer 2009, taking into consideration six strands of diversity. Annual assessments of events will be carried out.

Further Information

Available from Central Scotland Conservancy